

Part 573 Safety Recall Report

22E-069

Manufacturer Name : S&B Filters, Inc.

Submission Date : FEB 03, 2023

NHTSA Recall No. : 22E-069

Manufacturer Recall No. : NR



Manufacturer Information :

Manufacturer Name : S&B Filters, Inc.

Address : 15461 Slover Avenue

Fontana CA 92337

Company phone : 909-947-0015

Population :

Number of potentially involved : 910

Estimated percentage with defect : 60 %

Equipment Information :

Brand / Trade 1 : S&B Filters, Inc.

Model : Diesel Fuel Tank

Part No. : 10-1021

Size : App 12"x1"x1" (nonconforming)

Function : Fuel Tank

Descriptive Information : Number of units sold within the timeframe for the Dodge Ram Cummins Crew, Quad and Mega Cab Short Bed until S&B changed the tooling and venting to accommodate the larger driveline on Mega Cab models which was on August 1, 2022.

S&B Inc. is recalling it's diesel fuel tank (#10-1021) that did not contain adequate vapor space to accommodate the closer proximity of the larger driveline on Mega Cab models. This part number fits Crew, Quad and Mega Cab models; however, only Mega Cab model vehicles are affected by this recall as there is adequate clearance (spacing) for Crew and Quad Cab models.

Production Dates : MAR 12, 2022 - AUG 01, 2022

Description of Defect :

Description of the Defect : Unbeknownst to S&B, some of the Mega Cab models come with a driveline that is larger in diameter than the Crew and Quad Cab models. At some point Ram started using a larger diameter driveline for some of their Mega Cab vehicle models which caused the driveline to be positioned closer to the S&B Tank. S&B Inc. is recalling its diesel fuel tank (#10-1021) produced between March 1, 2021 and August 1, 2022 that did not have adequate vapor space to accommodate the closer proximity of the larger driveline on Mega Cab models. This recall only applies to Mega Cab model vehicles. Without the venting modification included with this recall, diesel fuel could expand on a hot day and if the tank is full, it could swell in the area toward the front of the larger driveline offered on Mega Cabs which may cause an increased risk of fire if the driveline impacts the diesel fuel tank and causes a leak.

FMVSS 1 : NR

FMVSS 2 : NR

Description of the Safety Risk : Since the larger drivelines on Mega Cab models sits closer to the Tank, without the venting modification included with this recall, diesel fuel could expand on a hot day and if the tank is full, it could swell in the area toward the front of the larger driveline which may cause an increased risk of fire if the driveline impacts the diesel fuel tank and causes a leak.

Description of the Cause : At some point, Ram started producing Mega Cab models with a driveline that is larger in diameter than the Crew and Quad Cab models. A larger diameter driveline caused the driveline to be positioned closer to the S&B Tank. With the clearance provided between the driveline and tank decreased, the normal expansion of fuel on a hot day could cause the tank to swell in this area when the tank is full. S&B was not aware of this issue (larger drivelines on Mega Cab models) until it received the initial reports from customers. S&B did not believe that these initial reports indicated any type of safety issue.

Identification of Any Warning that can Occur : The driver should hear an audible noise and could feel a vibration prior to a leak occurring. These warnings, however, may not be present in all instances.

Involved Components :

Component Name : NR

Component Description : NR

Component Part Number : NR

Supplier Identification :

Component Manufacturer

Name : S&B Filters, Inc.
Address : 15461 Slover Ave
Fontana California 92337
Country : United States

Chronology :

On 4/8/22, we had the driveline rub our diesel fuel tank and leak on a truck. There was no damage to the vehicle nor any injury. While we were unsure as to the cause of the leak, we promptly replaced the tank to maintain the highest level of customer service. We had one more incident in May, but were still unsure of the cause since there are many different factors including but not limited to an in bed auxiliary gravity fed tank, non-compatible aftermarket components, etc that could have caused the issue . In June we had 8 situations that were similar in nature with this part number. We performed testing in house but were unable to replicate the issue. As the summer grew hotter, we had 17 leaks in July and 6 more before we initiated the recall on 8/17/22. As I mentioned, there were multiple potential causes of the tank leaking that could have been unrelated to our tank which is why we didn't initiate the recall sooner. That being said, we did come to the conclusion sometime around August that the likely cause was as identified in the recall letter. At that point, we issued the recall. We have sent out notifications via First Class Mail (with tracking) and via email. We have also called non-responsive customers and dealers. To-date, there have been no reported injuries or property damage related to a tank leaking.

Description of Remedy :

Description of Remedy Program : Let everyone who received and/or installed the 10-1021 diesel fuel tank with a build date between 3/1/21 and 8/1/22 know that those who drive Mega Cab vehicles must make the venting modification to prevent the tank from swelling in the affected area. The venting modification can be installed by the consumer or a dealer in 30 minutes or less. If the consumer elects to install the venting modification, S&B will compensate them in the amount of \$150 for their time, or they can elect to have one of our Authorized Dealers install it at no cost. The venting modification and instructions will be available to send to consumers within 7-10 days of this Report.

How Remedy Component Differs from Recalled Component : NR

Identify How/When Recall Condition was Corrected in Production : S&B modified the tooling to provide more clearance between the tank and the larger driveline on Mega Cab models and changed the venting to prevent overfilling and allow for more vapor space in order to minimize any swelling of the tank when it is full on hot days. These changes were made as of August 1, 2022.

Recall Schedule :

Description of Recall Schedule : The venting modification and instructions will be available to send to consumers within 7-10 days of this Report. We are going to send the components to remedy the issue with the recall letter to all of those potentially affected in order to speed up the effectiveness of the recall. We estimate that only 60% of those notified will be affected by the recall.

Planned Dealer Notification Date : SEP 02, 2022 - NR

Planned Owner Notification Date : SEP 02, 2022 - NR

Purchaser Information :

The following manufacturers purchased this defective/noncompliant equipment for possible use or installation in new motor vehicles or new items of motor vehicle equipment:

Name : NR

Address : NR

NR

Country : NR

Company Phone : NR

* NR - Not Reported